

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 09958 031058Z

45

ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 NAS-01 AEC-11 ACDA-19 CIAE-00

INR-10 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 RSC-01 SCEM-02 SS-15

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----- 128722

R 030910Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5814

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, JA

SUBJECT: ABCC

DEPT PASS AEC AND NATIONAL ACADEMY SCIENCES

1. EMBOFF MET ON AUG 3 WITH FONOFF 1ST NORTH AMERICA
DIV DEP HEAD MATSUURA TO REVIEW STATE OF PLAY ON
JAPANESE SUPPORT FOR ABCC IN WAKE OF SECRETARY ROGER'S
CONVERSATION WITH FONMIN OHIRA IN TOKYO.

2. MATSUURA SAID HE HAD NOT YET RECEIVED WORD FROM
WASHINGTON AS TO WHETHER ABCC HAD BEEN DISCUSSED
AT ANY LEVEL DURING PRIMIN TANAKA'S VISIT. HOWEVER,
HE NOTED THAT FONMIN OHIRA APPARENTLY DURING BRIEFING
OF JAPANESE PRESS HAD REFERRED TO BASIC AGREEMENT
BETWEEN STATE DEPT AND FONOFF THAT THE TWO GOVTS WILL
WORK TOWARD JOINT OPERATION OF ABCC WITH RESPECT TO BOTH
FINANCING AND MANAGEMENT.

3. MATSUURA WENT ON TO SAY THAT FONOFF NORTH AMERICAN
AFFAIRS DIRGEN OKAWARA HAD CARRIED WITH HIM TO WASHINGTON
BASIC POSITION PAPER WHICH CONTAINED FOLLOWING POINTS
CONCERNING ABCC:

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PAGE 02 TOKYO 09958 031058Z

(A) AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED BETWEEN MINISTRY OF FINANCE

AND MINISTRY HEALTH AND WELFARE THAT GOJ WILL CONTRIBUTE APPROXIMATELY HALF OF ABCC EXPENSES BEGINNING WITH JFY 74. (I.E. FROM APRIL 1, 1974). THIS ARRANGEMENT WILL MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR GOJ TO COVER ANTICIPATED SHORT FALL IN ABCC EXPENSES DURING LAST QUARTER OF US FY 74; (B) GOJ IS UNABLE TO CONTRIBUTE FINANCIALLY TO ABCC DURING JFY 73 (I.E. PRIOR TO APRIL 1, 1974); (C) FINANCE MINISTRY IS CURRENTLY EXAMINING LEGAL QUESTION AS TO WHETHER GOJ CAN CONTRIBUTE TO AGENCY OF FOREIGN GOVT AND ANY GOJ CONTRIBUTION TO ABCC WILL BE CONTINGENT ON THIS LEGAL FINDING; (D) WHEN GOJ CONTRIBUTES HALF OF EXPENSES, IT WILL EXPECT TO ASSUME HALF SHARE IN MANAGEMENT. IN THIS CONNECTION GOJ DESIRES SOME MECHANISM TO PERMIT JAPANESE INPUTS INTO RESEARCH PROGRAMMING; (E) AFTER ABCC BECOMES BINATIONAL OPERATION, ITS ACTIVITIES SHOULD BE CONDUCTED WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF JAPANESE RULES AND REGULATIONS (THIS POINT APPARENTLY REFERS TO CERTAIN PERQUISITES NOW ENJOYED BY JNIIH PERSONNEL SECONDED TO ABCC WHICH THEY COULD NOT NORMALLY RECEIVE IF DIRECTLY EMPLOYED BY GOJ AGENCY).

3. MATSUURA ADDED THAT CHANGE IN ABCC STATUS TO THAT OF BINATIONAL ORGANIZATION MIGHT REQUIRE CONCLUSION OF DOCUMENT WHICH WOULD NEED DIET CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL. SUCH PROCEDURE IN HIS OPINION MIGHT TAKE AT LEAST SIX MONTHS OR LONGER.

4. EMBOFF EXPRESSED PERSONAL VIEW THAT NONE OF POINTS CONTAINED IN OKAWARA'S PAPER WOULD APPEAR TO POSE INSUPERABLE OBSTACLES FROM US POINT OF VIEW. HE NOTED THAT US WOULD PREFER FORM OF AGREEMENT WHICH DID NOT NECESSITATE FORMAL CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL SINCE THAT ROUTE SEEMED UNNECESSARILY COMPLEX AND WOULD FORECLOSE SOME FLEXIBILITY IF AGREEMENT NEEDED FUTURE ADJUSTMENTS. HOWEVER, IF AGREEMENT REQUIRED DIET CONSIDERATION ON JAPANESE SIDE, IT WOULD BE VERY IMPORTANT TO BEGIN PROCEDURE SOONEST ESPECIALLY IF FINANCE MINISTRY LEGAL EXPERTS DETERMINE THAT GOJ CAN CONTRIBUTE TO ABCC ONLY IF IT BECOMES BINATIONAL OPERATION WITH FULL DIET APPROVAL.

SHOESMITH

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PAGE 03 TOKYO 09958 031058Z

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